

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: VEHICLE FITTING

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A fitting for a motor vehicle, the fitting comprising:

a support configured to be secured to ~~the~~ a floor of the vehicle, the support being provided with a seat squab, ~~and being provided with~~ a seat back mounting, and backrest, the squab being moveable from an initial position in which the squab projects forwardly from the support to a position in which the squab does not obstruct ~~the~~ space in front of the backrest, the backrest being mounted to the seat back mounting by a mechanism which enables the backrest to be moved from an initial rearward position to a forward position in which the backrest has been moved forwardly and is ~~thus~~ spaced from the ~~seat~~ seat back mounting, ~~there being;~~ and

at least one seat belt mounted on the fitting and passing through: a guide at ~~the~~ a top of the backrest.

2. (Original) A fitting according to Claim 1, wherein the squab is provided with two mounting fingers and two mounting lugs, the support being provided with formations to receive the fingers and hooks to engage the lugs to removably mount the seat squab.

3. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the mechanism connecting the backrest to the seat back mounting ~~incorporates~~ is comprised of pivotal links.

4. (Currently amended) A fitting according Claim 3, wherein the backrest is connected to the seat back mounting by ~~means of~~ two upper pivotal links and two lower pivotal links, ~~there being~~ one upper and one lower pivotal link being to one side of the seat back mounting and another upper and another lower pivot link being to the other side of the seat back mounting.

5. (Original) A fitting according to Claim 4, wherein each pivotal link comprises two straight arms which are pivotally interconnected.

6. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the mechanism is an over-dead-centre mechanism.

7. (Original) A fitting according to Claim 6, wherein the over-dead-centre mechanism comprises a drive bar passing through slots in two spaced apart plates provided on the backrest, the drive bar being mounted on at least one arm which is pivotally mounted to the mounting frame, so that the drive bar executes an arcuate movement.

8. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 7, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:

a handle is provided to move the ~~said~~ pivotally mounted arm.

9. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of Claims 1 to 7, wherein~~ Claim 1, further comprising: a motor is ~~provided which is~~ actuatable to move the backrest ~~forwardly~~ forward.

10. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein, when in the forward position, the backrest ~~can pivot~~ is pivotable about a horizontal axis.

11. (Currently amended) A fitting for a motor vehicle, the fitting comprising:

a support, ~~the support being~~ provided with a squab and a backrest to form a seat, the squab being moveable from an initial position in which the squab projects forwardly from the support to a position in which the squab does not obstruct the space in front of the backrest, the support being mounted on rollers for lateral movement.

12. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~any of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 11, wherein the support incorporates a base plate, the base plate being mounted on a platform for lateral movement.

13. (Original) A fitting according to Claim 12, wherein the base plate is provided with at least one projection extending downwardly to engage with at least one channel formed in the platform.

14. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 13, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:  
a band ~~is provided~~ associated with the platform to extend over the or each channel, the ~~or each~~ band extending from the base plate to a guide provided at one end of the respective channel, then passing through a passage extending under the platform, before passing a guide at the other end of the channel and extending back to the other side of the base plate.

15. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of Claims 12 to 14~~, ~~wherein~~ Claim 12, further comprising: a clamp is provided to clamp the base plate in position.

16. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone Claims 12 to 15~~, ~~wherein~~ Claim 12, further comprising: a motor arrangement ~~is provided to drive~~ driving the base plate relative to the platform.

17. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of the preceding Claims~~ Claim 11, wherein the backrest has a relatively wide upper portion and a relatively narrow lower portion.

18. (Currently amended) A fitting for a motor vehicle, for use with a wheelchair, the fitting comprising:

a support supporting a backrest, the backrest being relatively broad at the top and being relatively narrow at a lower position, ~~to enable the~~ enabling handles of a wheelchair to be accommodated on either side of the narrow part of the backrest, ~~wherein; and~~

at least one seat belt ~~is provided~~ mounted on the fitting and passing through a guide at ~~the~~ a top of the backrest.

19. (Original) A fitting according to Claim 18, wherein the space in front of the backrest is unobstructed.

20. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 18 ~~or 19, wherein~~, further comprising: a removable seat squab ~~is provided which can be~~ mounted in a position adjacent the backrest to form a seat.

21. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of Claims 18 to 20, wherein~~ Claim 18, further comprising: at least two seat belts ~~are provided~~ mounted ~~on the fitting thereon~~, each belt passing through a respective guide at the top of the backrest.

22. (Currently amended) A fitting according to ~~anyone of Claims 18 to 21~~ Claim 18, wherein the backrest is mounted on a seat back mounting and a mechanism is provided to move the backrest forwardly from an initial rearward position to a forward position in which the backrest is spaced from the seat back mounting.

23. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 1 ~~or any Claim dependent thereon, or Claim 22~~, wherein the seat back mounting is mounted to the support by a yieldable connection adapted to yield when subjected to a force in excess of a predetermined force.

24. (Currently amended) A fitting according to Claim 23, wherein ~~the~~ an upper part of the support is a torsion plate and ~~the~~ a lower part of the seat back mounting frame is a torsion plate, the torsion plates being interconnected and forming the yieldable connection.